

**The annual meeting of the Saylesville Fire District was held on March 2, 2015 at Wesley p.m. by Robert Oster, Moderator. All Wardens were present with the exception of Craig Wilson who was ill.**

**A motion was made by Bruce Andrews to dispense with the reading of the minutes of last years Methodist Church, 55 Woodland Street, Lincoln, RI. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 minutes. Motion was seconded by Robert Ferioli. Motion passed. Motion was made by Bruce Andrews to approve the minutes of the meeting of 2014. Motion was seconded by Robert Ferioli. Motion passed.**

**Raymond Neves, Treasurer presented the treasurers report. Fund balance, January 1, 2014, was \$405,945.21.**

**Receipts. Tax Collections, \$714,166.67; interest 86.69; miscellaneous \$9,550.49. Total receipts \$723,903.95**

**Expenses: Personnel, \$466,025.16; Service and Utilities, \$20,236.79; Supplies and Materials, \$11,740.45; Maintenance \$31,149.39; Insurance \$33,037.00; Capital outlay for equipment, \$8,782.67; Miscellaneous \$15,045.14; Notes, leases with interest \$112,333.00 for a total of \$112,333.00 for total expenses of \$698,349.60. There is a net cash flow of positive \$25,454.25.**

**Ending balance as of December 31, 2014 was \$431,399.46 which consisted of Blackstone River Federal Credit Union, a money market fund of \$29,576.07; checking account, \$8,951.55; savings account, \$8,122.55 and Citizens Bank checking account was \$384,749.29 for a total cash balance of \$431,399.46.**

**George Hadley questioned the Treasurer on the increase of insurance costs in 2014 over 2013 and wanted to know who the insurance**

carrier is. Insurance is purchased through VFIS and Mr. Hadley was satisfied with the answer that the insurance increase was under \$1500.00 for the year 2014.

Motion made by Jan Smolan and seconded by David Sale to approve the Treasurer's report. Motion passed.

Tax Collector David Almond presented the Tax Collector's report for the year ended December 31, 2014. Assessed as of December 31, 2013: Real Estate and Tangible \$623,222.24; Motor Vehicles \$94,560.02 for a total assessment of \$717,782.26.

Collected January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014 \$714,166.67 that includes real estate, tangible and motor vehicle taxes and includes prior years and interest. Collected January 1, 2015 through February 27, 2015 \$42,169.26. Outstanding taxes for the 2014 assessment is \$167,376.71. Prior years 2013 back to 2005 is \$131,527.56 for a total of \$298,904.26.

George Hadley asked what the process is for collecting unpaid taxes. Mr. Almond explained that possibly \$25,000 will be uncollectible because they are Tangible taxes mostly from businesses who have closed and left town. Mr. Almond explained that he can put a lien on delinquent real estate, auto registrations are held up if the taxes are delinquent but there is no mechanism to put a lien on tangible property. Most of the businesses that had tangible delinquent taxes were housed in rental property so a lien couldn't be placed on the property that was owned by someone else. Mr. Hadley made the motion that having read the Tax Collectors report that the Warden's investigate further collection of the bad debts. The Moderator asked

for a second to Mr. Hadley's motion. Having no second the motion failed. Motion was made by Bruce Andrews and seconded by Jan Smolan to approve the Tax Collectors report. Motion passed.

Warden Robert Ferioli read the Personnel Board report for the year 2014. At the end of 2014 the official roster showed 3 full-time firefighters and 28 volunteers or call personnel. Five firefighters have left for full-time employment during the year with other departments. The department added seven new members for the year 2015. Motion was made by Stephen Tomasetti and seconded by Eric Shay to approve the Personnel Board report. Motion passed.

Warden Ernest Lacombe read the report from the Board of Fire Wardens for the year 2014. The Board of Fire Warden's met monthly with the Acting Chief during the year 2014 for the purpose of conducting the business of the Fire District and acting on various matters related thereto.

On behalf of all the residents of the District, the Board would like to extend their thanks and appreciation to the firefighters, officers and District Officials for the many hours of dedicated service given over the past year.

The Board recommends the passage of Resolution 1 which allows the Board of Fire Wardens to authorize the Treasurer to borrow funds in anticipation of taxes.

The Board recommends the passage of Resolution 2 which allows the District to borrow up to \$30,000 for the purchase of a new engine. This is contingent upon approval of a grant request through the Assistance to Firefighters grant program.

**Motion to approve the Wardens report by Bruce Andrews and seconded by Stephen Tomasetti. Mr. Hadley asked what the amount of the grant. Deputy Chief Fisher said that the amount of the grant was \$480,000. The Districts share would be about \$22,500. Motion passed.**

**Deputy Chief Fisher gave the Fire Chief's report for the year 2014. The department answered a total of 747 alarms. There were 32 structure fires, 3 vehicle fires, 1 trash fire, 7 brush fires, 21 hazardous conditions, 6 water emergencies, 45 accidental false, 69 alarm system malfunctions, 363 emergency medical calls, 25 smoke scare calls, 2 good intent calls, 25 public service calls, 25 stand-by calls, 14 other fires, 11 investigations, 2 boat calls, 35 auto accidents, 65 food on the stove, 10 CO investigations, 1 assist the police. There were 526 in-district calls, 221 out of district calls. The total fire loss was \$111,525.00 Motion was made by Margaret Shay and seconded by George Hadley. Motion passed.**

**Robert Ferioli nominated Robert Oster for the position of Moderator for a 1 year term. Jan Smolan seconded the nomination. Motion passed**

**Robert Ferioli and Craig Wilson were the only people who filed papers to be elected to the position of Warden. Having no other candidates the Moderator declared them elected and asked the Clerk to cast 1 vote for the Wardens Robert Ferioli and Craig Wilson. The clerk cast 1 vote.**

**Ernest Lacombe read the proposed budget for 2015. Call fund for fire drills, \$18,000., Part-time personnel, \$101,500.00, Tax Collector,**

**\$7,500.00, Treasurer's salary, \$2,100.00, Officials and other, \$3,500.00, Payroll expense for FICA, computer \$24,000, Medical Insurance, \$91,000.00, Training, \$5000.00, Payroll fees, \$2,350.00, Computer Service \$3,300, Pension, \$47,200.00 for a total of \$485,850.**

**Also Computer Service \$3,300.00, Association Dues, \$1600.00, Telephone \$1,900.00, Water, \$300.00, Building heat/gas \$5,800.00, Electric, \$6,000.00, Narragansett Bay Commission, \$1000.00, Cable Television, \$350.00 for a total of \$24,250.00.**

**Supplies and Materials: Apparatus Fuel, \$8,500, Supplies, maintenance, etc, \$3,750.00. Total, \$12,250.00.**

**Maintenance, Trucks, radio station and alarm, \$33,000, Insurance: Building, \$8,500.00, Vehicles, \$9,250.00, Accident and Health, \$17,750.00, Workers Compensation, \$250.00. Total, \$35,750.00.**

**Capital Outlay: Station Alarm Equipment, \$8,000.00. Total \$8,000.00.**

**Miscellaneous: Bank fees and service charges, professional fees, \$15,000, Firefighter Expenses, \$3000.00, Fire Prevention, \$1600.00, Tax Sale redemptions, \$1600.00. Total \$19,600.00.**

**Notes and leases with interest: Station, \$47,833.00, Truck, \$64,500.00. Total \$112,033.00.**

**Total general fund expenditures, \$731,033.00**

**Motion was made by David Sale and seconded by Bruce Andrews to approve proposed budget. Motion passed**

**Setting of the Tax Rate: The Board of Fire Wardens recommends a \$.04 tax increase to the residential tax rate from \$1.65 to \$1.69 per thousand as assessed dollar ratio. Motion to approve the recommended \$.04 tax increase by Robert Ferioli and seconded by**

**David Sale. Motion passed.**

**Resolution #1: Be it resolved, that we, the voters of the Saylesville Fire District to direct and authorize the Treasurer to obtain a tax anticipation note in a sum not to exceed \$50,000 during the current fiscal year should said Wardens determine that said note is advisable and necessary for the efficient operation of the Saylesville Fire District.**

**Motion was made by Meg Shay and seconded by Ernest Lacombe to approve Resolution #1. Motion passed.**

**Resolution #2: Be it resolved that we, the voters of the Saylesville Fire District, assembled here on March 2, 2015, do hereby authorize the Treasurer to borrow a sum not to exceed \$30,000.00 if the District's grant request is approved by FEMA through the Assistance to Firefighters grant program. These funds would be used to purchase a new engine. Total grant request, \$480,000. Motion was made by Stephen Tomasetti and seconded by Ernest Lacombe to approve Resolution #2. Motion passed.**

**Jan Smolan made a motion to adjourn at 7:55 p.m. and seconded by Eric Shay. Motion passed.**

**A copy of the Official transcript is on file with the Clerk.**